

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
1938 AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION PROGRAM - WESTERN DIVISION

September 22, 1937

To the
STATE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEES:

Re: RESTORATION LAND

The 1936 and 1937 Agricultural Conservation Programs included as a practice the designation of certain tracts of crop land to be restored to native vegetation, with a practice payment thereon. The 1938 program will provide for the designation of such tracts and of additional tracts as RESTORATION LAND, for the removal of all such tracts from the cropland bases and classification, and for special treatment and consideration of such RESTORATION LAND. It is contemplated that future programs will provide for the designation of additional RESTORATION LAND each year and the transfer of each such tract, after a three year RESTORATION period, to its proper classification as land under permanent vegetative cover. It is the purpose of such provisions to further the permanent retirement from cultivation of such types of land as experience therewith has demonstrated to be unfit for continued cultivation.

It is not contemplated that such reclassification will be completed under the 1938 program. However, it is proposed that under the 1938 program shall be accomplished the reclassification of the worst types of such land and of those tracts in the worst degree of erosion, a reasonable proportion of the ultimate total which may now and in the future appear to be for the best interest of special areas in particular, agriculture in general and the nation as a whole.

Care must be exercised that individual owners and operators be not unduly restricted in their reasonable operations in any one year, that land be considered not only with respect to its present condition but also with respect to its type as related to its probable future under proper usage and treatment.

For and within each State, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, upon the recommendation of the State Agricultural Conservation Committee, will designate by (and within) counties the area (or areas) in which RESTORATION LAND should be designated and identified. In recommending the areas within which a portion of the agricultural land should be designated as RESTORATION LAND, the State Agricultural Conservation Committee will utilize all advice and information available from State agencies such as the Experiment Station, the Extension Service, Soil-Survey, and State, area, and county planning boards or committees, and from federal agencies operating within the State, such as Experiment Stations, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Credit Administration, Farm Security Administration, and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The State committee will submit to this Division a State-county map portraying its area recommendations.

The State Committee will advise the County Agricultural Conservation Committee in each county included (in whole or in part) in the designated RESTORATION LAND area or areas, and will instruct the county committees concerning the type of land that should be so classified at this time, the factors to be considered in recommending land for such classification, and the procedure to be followed. Technical assistance by specialists in land use, land classification and soil conservation may be furnished to county committees insofar as available and acceptable. The State Committee will be fully responsible for instructing and guiding the county committees in the proper interpretation and application of the factors and principles involved in the classification of RESTORATION LAND. Each county committee should be furnished a state-county outline map on which is indicated the proposed RESTORATION LAND area within the State. Each county committee should be supplied with all available concise information which will aid in this reclassification.

County committees will first include as RESTORATION LAND all tracts of cropland on which Agricultural Conservation payments for natural reseeding were approved under the 1936 and/or 1937 programs. In proceeding toward the classification of additional RESTORATION LAND, county committees will utilize all information made available to them by the State committee, together with the advice and assistance of county planning committees. First consideration will be given to sandy lands which have been subject to blowing for several years and have responded least favorably to wind erosion control practices, those which are surrounded by or adjacent to land which is already under permanent native cover, those whose owners and/or operators have neglected to institute practical erosion control measures thereon.

County committees will utilize the assistance of community committees in identifying, by and within farms, land which should be recommended for classification as RESTORATION LAND. In studying the problem of each piece of land under consideration for classification as RESTORATION LAND, county and community committees shall give consideration to:

1. Soil type and adaptability to crop production.
2. Condition of the land at present time.
3. The relationship of the tract to the entire farm or farming unit.
4. Character or type of land in surrounding farms.
5. Crop production history for the land since it was first brought under cultivation, and the type of farming which has been followed with special reference to erosion control.
6. Economic studies of farming possibilities in the community.
7. Other factors governing the future use of the land and the conservation of its resources.

Each farm on which RESTORATION LAND is designated must be covered by Form WR-1 or WR 2. County committees will be provided with forms on which to prepare their recommendations covering each farm, all or any portion of which is recommended for classification as RESTORATION LAND. Such form will include provision for the legal description of the whole farm, the approximate acreage recommended for classification as RESTORATION LAND, and the identification of the legal subdivision(s) on which such RESTORATION LAND is located. Such form will also include provision for a farm sketch on which the proposed RESTORATION LAND shall be accurately identified and the permanent native cover already included in the farm shall be sketched. In transmitting its recommendations to the State Committee, the County Committee will, on a listing sheet to be provided, enumerate all farms on which the classification of RESTORATION LAND is recommended, and will also furnish large township plats on which are identified the location of RESTORATION LAND and of present permanent native cover. Listing sheets, township plats, and other forms suggested hereinafter will be furnished by this Division in printed form.

The State Committee will receive and review the recommendations of each County Committee and notify the County Committee concerning its action on each recommendation. The classification as RESTORATION LAND shall become effective upon receipt by the County Committee of approval by the State Committee. If, upon review of any County Committee's recommendations, the State Committee is of the opinion that the County Committee has not reclassified such a total of land within the county as might reasonably be expected, the State Committee may request additional recommendations from the County Committee. When the State committee has satisfied itself that each county committee in the area(s) designated by the State committee has accomplished a reasonable classification of RESTORATION LAND as contemplated under the 1938 program, the State committee will submit to this Division a statistical and graphic report of the accomplishment for the State.

When notified of the State Committee's approval of its recommendations, the County Committee will, on forms to be provided for this purpose, notify the owner and operator of each farm on which land has been classified as RESTORATION LAND. Such notice shall include identification of the land so classified and statements in effect as follows:

1. That the land identified as RESTORATION LAND shall be restored to permanent vegetative cover.
2. That no tillage operation shall be conducted on such RESTORATION LAND except for the express purpose of aiding or promoting the establishment of permanent vegetative cover, and as approved by the county committee.
3. That such RESTORATION LAND shall be cared for in such manner as will, in the opinion of the County Committee, result in maximum control of wind and water erosion.
4. That failure of owner and/or operator to cooperate in the proper care of such RESTORATION LAND shall be the basis for deduction from any payments to which he (or they) might otherwise be entitled under any Agricultural Conservation Program.

The county committee may advise assessors and any other concerned public officers as to the identity of tracts classified as RESTORATION LAND and the acreage in each. The purpose of this policy is to encourage reclassification of such land on county records and thereby promote the permanence of this change in land use.

The State Committee shall transmit to the proper office(s) of Soil Conservation Service, Farm Credit Administration, Farm Security Administration and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, lists (by counties, townships, and sections) of all tracts which have been classified as RESTORATION LAND. Such notification shall include the acreage of each tract and the identification of the legal subdivision(s) in which it is located. The purpose of such notifications is to inform those agencies of the progress which is being made by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in promoting proper changes in land use, in order that they may cooperate in their consideration of such of the RESTORATION LAND tracts as may come within the scope of their local operations.

George E. Farrell

GEORGE E. FARRELL,
Director, Western Division.

COUNTY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION
FOR DESIGNATION OF
RESTORATION LAND

(State) _____ (County) _____ State and County Code and Work-Sheet Serial No _____

To the _____
STATE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE: _____ (Date) _____

On the farm owned by _____

_____ of _____
(Name of Owner) (Address of Owner)

operated by _____
_____ of _____
(Name of Operator) (Address of Operator)

under State and county code and work-sheet serial number indicated above, located
_____ from _____ in _____
(Miles and Direction) (Town) (Township, Precinct, or Community)
containing, as land has previously been classified, approximately

Cropland _____ Permanent vegetative cover _____ Total _____
(Acres) (Acres) (Acres)
consisting of the legal subdivisions indicated below:

in accordance with instructions received from the State Agricultural Conservation Committee concerning the classification of RESTORATION LAND, we hereby recommend that the tract/s of cropland described on the other side of this sheet, now be classified as RESTORATION LAND.

SOIL-DEPLETING CROP AND TOTAL SOIL-DEPLETING BASE HISTORY OF THE FARM

	Crop History of Entire Farm				Crop History of Cropland Designated as Restoration Land			
	Acreage of S.D. Crops	Acreage of S.D. Crops	Total S.D. Base	Prod. Index Estab.	Acreage of S.D. Crops	Acreage of S.D. Crops	Total S.D. Base	Prod. Index Estab.
Crop Year	Planted for Harvest	Harvested	Estab.		Planted for Harvest	Harvested	Estab.	
1930								
etc.								

REMARKS:

(NOTE. -- On this form, when printed, there will be space here for the necessary data for the 8 crop years 1930-37.)

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(Signed) _____ (Signed) _____
(Secretary) (Chairman)

NOTE: This recommendation to be prepared and signed in duplicate -- original to be transmitted to State Committee with listing and transmittal sheets, carbon copy to be filed in county office.

BASE MAP
FOR
SKETCH OF FARM

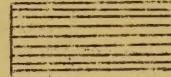
NOTE 1.--If whole farm lies entirely within a single land-survey township, sketch the farm accurately and entirely on township plat below.

NOTE 2. --If the farm lies in two or more townships, use a separate township plat for that portion of the farm lying in each township.

Land already under
Permanent Vegetative Cover



Recommended
RESTORATION LAND



(Township plat here, subdivided to
quarters of quarter-sections)

Tracts recommended for designation as RESTORATION LAND

Approximate Acreage

Located in legal subdivision/s

(County)

In accordance with your advice and instructions concerning the reclassification of certain types of cropland as RESTORATION LAND, we have carefully and thoroughly reviewed the situation in such portion/s of the county as contain/s cropland considered to be of such type and in such condition that it should be designated as RESTORATION LAND at this time.

We await notice of your decision, upon receipt of which we will notify owners, operators, and others accordingly.

Date: _____ (Signed) _____ (Signed) _____
 _____ (Secretary) _____ (President)

Received: _____ Reviewed: _____ Additional
(Date) (Date) Recommendations Requested: _____
(Date)

County Agricultural Conservation
Committee notified on _____ (Signed) _____
(Date) (Executive Secretary)

[NOTE:--This form to be prepared and signed in triplicate - the original and a duplicate to be signed and transmitted to State Committee, with originals of listing sheets and individual recommendations, and the triplicate to be filed in county office. One of the State Committee copies is to be signed and returned to County Agricultural Conservation Committee.]

NOTICE TO OWNER AND/OR OPERATOR
CONCERNING
CLASSIFICATION OF RESTORATION LAND

To _____
(Name)

Date: _____

(Address)

You are hereby advised that the State Agricultural Conservation Committee has classified as RESTORATION LAND the tract/s of land, indicated below, within your farm which is under Agricultural Conservation Program work-sheet serial number _____.

Approximately _____ acres in _____
(Legal Subdivision/s)

Approximately _____ acres in _____
(Legal Subdivision/s)

Approximately _____ acres in _____
(Legal Subdivision/s)

You are further advised:

- (1). That the land identified as RESTORATION LAND shall be restored to permanent vegetative cover.
- (2). That no tillage operation shall be conducted on such RESTORATION LAND except for the express purpose of aiding or promoting the establishment of permanent vegetative cover, and as approved by the County Agricultural Conservation Committee.
- (3). That such RESTORATION LAND shall be cared for in such manner as will, in the opinion of the County Committee, result in maximum control of wind and water erosion.
- (4). That failure of owner/s or operator/s to cooperate in the proper care of such RESTORATION LAND shall be the basis for deduction from any payments to which he or they might otherwise be entitled under the Agricultural Conservation Program.

(Signed) _____

(Secretary)

COUNTY AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

(Signed) _____

(Chairman)

NOTE:-This notification to be prepared and signed in duplicate or triplicate - original to owner, carbon copy to operator, carbon copy to file.

STATE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
NOTIFICATION TO OTHER AGENCIES CONCERNING
THE CLASSIFICATION OF
RESTORATION LAND

(State)

(County)

In accordance with instructions issued by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, the County Agricultural Conservation Committee has recommended, and the State Agricultural Conservation Committee has approved, the classification as RESTORATION LAND of each tract of land located in the State and county named above and located in Township No. _____ Range No. _____ and Section No. _____ as listed below:

Township No. & Section No.	Approximate Acreage in Tract	Located in Legal Subdivision

STATE AGRICULTURAL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Date: _____ (Signed) _____
(Executive Secretary)

[NOTE: This notification to be prepared and signed in quintuplicate - one copy for the Soil Conservation Service, one copy for the Farm Credit Administration, one copy for the Farm Security Administration, one copy for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and one copy for the State Committee's file.]